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# The Mission Trail

GUTHRIE, OKLAHOMA

Willie C. Murphey • Frances E. Murphey • Kathleen E. Murphey • Patsy M. Murphey

"LIFT UP YOUR EYES, AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS; FOR THEY ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST." — JOHN 4:35

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. . . A very pleasant greeting once more and a hearty welcome to all who are listening to The Mission Trail of Guthrie. This is Willie Murphey speaking to you and we are indeed glad to be coming into your home or automobile as you drive along the highways. I hope each of you are enjoying the rich blessings of God which He so freely gives us all.

Another thing--I want to tell you I have been made happy in recent weeks by the warm response which we have gotten from those who hear the broadcast and also those who receive the printed copies each week. In case some may not have heard, we mail these copies to those who request them. But your kind words of encouragement have meant so much to us.

To any who might like to receive a personal letter from us, let me assure you that all you have to do is to write to us at The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Oklahoma. Your reply will be forthcoming shortly.

For our scripture text now I am thinking of a scripture which says:

"YE ARE MY WITNESSES, SAITH THE LORD,

and my servants whom I have chosen; that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he; before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, even I, am the Lord; and beside me there is no saviour. I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, that I am God." Isaiah 43:10-12

These verses have a storehouse of spiritual wealth wrapped in them, and I hope we may uncover a little of it in this brief message.

First let us notice that twice here it is said: "ye are my witnesses". Now a witness is one who gives a report of that which he knows to be true. This account may be either good or bad. In some court trials the one who is accused, or the defendant, never speaks a word in behalf of himself, either good or bad; however, there will be brought in those who will take a vow to tell the truth in behalf of the defendant. These people are known as witnesses. There are those who will speak in favor of the accused one, and then others will speak of the unlawful acts which he may have committed. In the meantime there will be the jury who will listen to all these reports. Their responsibility is to determine which witnesses are telling the truth and then decide whether the accused one shall go free or be condemned.

There have been cases brought to trial where false witnesses were brought in, and because of their many accusations, sometimes an innocent person has been sentenced to a life of imprisonment.

On the other hand, there are times when a very notable wicked person has gone unpunished because of those who witnessed in his behalf.

Now let us take another look at the scripture. God affirms in truth that there is no other either before Him, neither shall there be any after Him. He declares that He is the Lord, "and beside me there is no saviour".

However it is well for us to remember that God uses human lips to speak for Him now. He uses human minds to make decisions and human feet to carry out His worthy purpose. Without these human instrumentalities, His cause would suffer under the false accusations of witnesses who care not for the souls of men.

But now here is where you and I come in. He has declared "ye are my witnesses". God is counting on us to speak up for Him. He wants us to do this unashamed. One song writer penned these words which have long since become indelibly impressed into the minds of those who remember them when he said: "Must I fear to own His cause or blush to speak His name?"

I am thinking of some of the ways in which we may be good witnesses for the truth. Today in this age in which we live, many spiritual values are being attacked and torn down. That which was once considered to be basic truth for many years is no longer immune to the gain-saying criticism of those who profess to love God, but in works they deny Him.

Therefore, I would say that one of the best ways in which we may be a good witness is to stand upon the word, The Holy Bible.

Its teachings are being attacked by the vilest of wicked men which include some of the most highly polished and educated professors who endeavor to break down the moral and spiritual concepts of its teachings.

Especially is this danger great in the modern school systems. When the so-called philosophers exhaust their ability to reason out the creation of God, then they resort to speculation and assuming. Therefore, they assume that the process of human life is a matter of evolution rather than of creation. This error soon leads to another and before long there are no basic landmarks on which to establish faith in God. Then all faith is discarded and they tell us to be free thinkers-to think for yourself. This they then think, works very well until you decide to think of returning to faith in God, but upon this they frown, because it cannot be explained to their satisfaction.

Now let me direct a few thoughts toward our young people of today. While you are forming opinions and being instructed in school is a very important time. I would suggest, therefore, that you refuse to accept the modern theories of evolution and speak up as a witness for Christ. Leave all of this foolish reasoning about mankind evolving from a tiny animal to his present state to others who are willing to risk their souls and happiness in the hands of some professor who must stand before God and there give an account of the manner in which he has instructed others. Refer them to Genesis 1:1 which says: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Or remind them of Psalms 53:1: "The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God."

There are many ways in which we may witness for Christ. Our manner of speech, manner of dress, our places of amusement. All of these witness either for or against the cause of God!

Now, in the midst of all these changes, let me ask you this question: "What kind of a witness are you? Are you a good witness for the cause of God?" I hope so.

At this time Patsy is here to assist with the broadcast. She is a great help in preparing the printed copies to mail also. Patsy was 17 years old a few days ago and will shortly begin her senior year in highschool. But here she is. She shall speak for herself.

Patsy: "It's a real pleasure to speak to all of those who listen to The Mission Trail, and we hope and pray that it may be a source of encouraging each one to do his best for the

Lord. I have a poem that I would like to give to you. Especially would I like for all the young people to listen carefully. In the times that we are living in, it is very important for those who are still young to be a witness for the Lord. The young people can have an influence over others that the older ones do not possess.

"I think how the influence of Daniel and the three Hebrew children had such an effect in the king's court, and then too, how the faithfulness of Queen Esther saved an entire nation from being destroyed. If we are yeilded to God, our lives can also be of great service in His work. May I ask each of you to consider the kind of influence your life is having on others? The title of this poem is:

"PROCRASTINATION"
by Ulysses Phillips

Unto a youth the Gospel came,
Exhorting him in Jesus name,
To turn from sin, embrace the truth
And serve the Lord in days of youth.

The youth replied, "I know that's right,
But I won't turn from sin tonight;
A few more pleasures I will seek,
And then I'll turn, perhaps next week."

But next week came, and still his heart
Was not inclined from sin to part.
"A few more days in sin I'll live,
And then my heart to God I'll give."

Days pass by, and months roll on,
And still he sings the same old song:
"Not now, but after while I'll pray
For God to wash my sins away."

The months and years went by so fast,
From youth to middle age he passed;
And yet his sins were not forgiven,
Nor yet his name enrolled in Heaven.

From middle age to old he went;
His body 'neath the years was bent;
"His conscience once so keen to feel,
No more was stirred at God's appeal."

Procrastination in its stealth
Had robbed his soul of heaven's wealth;
And so at last to sin a slave,
He died to fill a Christless grave.

O Souls, behold, God says, TODAY
Turn now from all your sins away,
Lest you should reach your doleful fate,
And cry at last, "Too late, too late."

Thank you, Patsy. Let us humble our hearts as we wait in the presence of God.

Our Gracious Father,

Take the words of this message and may they be as seed sown in good ground. Cause them to find a spot in some heart who is anxious to find the peace which only thou canst give, in Christ's name we ask it. Amen.

Here then is a song by Bobby Forbes, Dorrall Forbes, Randall Flynn, and Melvin Doolittle. "From Death to Life".

The song.

You are listening to The Mission Trail broadcast of Guthrie, Oklahoma. If you have been strengthened to be a better witness for the truth, we would like to hear from you. Also if you would like to have today's message in print, send us your request. There is no charge for this service. That address is The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Until next Friday night, this is Willie Murphey and Patsy saying may God's richest blessings be yours and a very pleasant good-night!

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"Blessed be the day that I began
A pilgrim for to be;
And blessed also be the man
That thereto moved me.

'Tis true, 'twas long ere I began
To seek to live forever;
But now I run fast as I can:
'Tis better late than never.

--John Bunyan

## AT PRESS TIME WE UNDERSTAND THAT:

One described the recent meeting in Bakersfield, California this way: "waves of glory swept over the camp. I do not believe I have ever been in a better meeting--25 were baptized and many more yet to be baptized. It was estimated that there were over one hundred seekers at the altar."

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The truths of the Bible are like gold in the soil. Whole generations walk over it and know not what treasures are hidden beneath. So centuries of men pass over the scriptures, and know not that riches lie under the feet of their misinterpretation.

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Kathleen reports that the Myrtle, Missouri meeting was well attended, the preaching was good, and the church in general seemed greatly benefited. This congregation has an all-day service each first Sunday of the month (except September). It was decided to have a special time set aside for work on the improvements and grounds Friday, November 5, and Saturday, November 6. Those who can come and help are welcome!

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Congratulations to Bro. and Sis. Sam Abbott of Kentucky on your 41st wedding anniversary, August 26. Some desire to make things more convenient for them in their home. If interested in these home missionaries, write them at Route 5, Somerset, Kentucky.

In a recent letter from Sis. Geneva Hite, she told of the progress of the saints in Mexico, and how God was blessing them there, with some rejoicing along the way.--Kathleen

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The campmeeting at Pacoima, California, starts today, Friday, August 27. No doubt, some from other states will attend these services with expectations of blessings from God to be had in abundance by all.

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To those who are receiving printed copies of THE MISSION TRAIL, we would like to request that you send us your new address should your address be changed. Also, please include your zip code number.

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Since so many of the meetings are coming to a close for this summer, we hope that no one will have the scripture found in Jeremiah 8:20 for their testimony: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."

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If you enjoy THE MISSION TRAIL, why not tell a friend the time and station where this message can be heard each week. Or if you would like the printed copies sent to those you think would be interested, send us their address, but especially do we desire that you remember us in your prayers that God may count us worthy to work for Him in His great harvest field.

**The Mission Trail**

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